

EPA ID: NJD067484923 Site Name: E L BETH LTD

State ID:

Alias Site Names:

City: PERTH AMBOY

County or Parish: MIDDLESEX

State: NJ

Refer to Report Dated:

Report Type: SITE INSPECTION 001

Report Developed by: START

DECISION:

☒ 1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:

☒ 1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA (No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)

☐ 1b. Site may qualify for action, but is deferred to:

☐ 2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:

2a. Priority: ☐ Higher ☐ Lower

2b. Other: (recommended action) NFRAP (No Further Remedial Action Planned)

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

This site does not qualify for further assessment under CERCLA. The E L Beth site is located in an industrial area of Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, NJ, and consists of a 0.66-acre parcel of land and a 0.41-acre pier. A factory was located on the pier until May 1981, when a fire, reportedly caused by an overheated kiln, destroyed the factory, the pier, and all company records. Up until the fire, the E L Beth facility was a foundry and secondary smelting operation that produced solder, casting metals, and lead alloys. The facility also recovered gold from electronic scrap. In 1980, the owners filed a RCRA Part A permit application for listing as a TSD facility. In 1983, the owners requested the facility be delisted as a TSD facility.

According to the facility's Hazardous Waste Permit Application, wastes generated at the facility included corrosive materials and emission control dust/sludge from secondary lead smelting which could possibly contain chromium, lead and cadmium. Wastes reportedly were stored in drums on concrete, in annual quantities of 50,000 pounds and a process design capacity of 2,500 gallons. It is unknown if any hazardous wastes were present on site at the time of the 1981 fire.

GW: A release to groundwater has not been observed nor is one suspected. The site is paved and a confining clay layer overlies the aquifer of concern. All known potable wells are located more than 2 miles from the site and all but one are separated from the site by the Raritan River. The nearest potable wells are located 2.1 and 2.8 miles from the site and serve a total of three people. The Sayreville Water Department operated four wells within the TDL that serve a total of 38,000 people, however, only one of those wells is screened in the aquifer of concern.

SW: There is a high likelihood that a release to surface water has occurred, but source sampling onsite would be difficult, as the entire site is paved. Past waste disposal practices at the site indicate the potential release of contaminants to surface water, as well as a potential release of contaminants generated during the 1981 fire. Surface drainage would be expected to flow to the Arthur Kill over the paved surfaces onsite or through storm drains. Several 15-mile surface water pathways exist with this site due to its proximity to tidally influenced waters, the majority of which are considered saline waters of estuaries. Approximately 78 miles of wetland frontage exists within the TDL and six State-listed threatened or endangered species are located within the vicinity of the site. Sandy Hook, an NJDEP Natural Heritage Priority site, is located 14 miles downstream from the site.

SE: A release to soil has not been observed nor is one suspected. The site is entirely paved, therefore no soil samples have ever been taken. The site has been inactive since 1981, therefore there are no workers present onsite. There are no residences, schools, day cares, or terrestrial sensitive environments within 200 feet of the facility.

Air: A release to air has not been documented. It is possible that a release could occur from contaminants possibly located in the rubble onsite or may have occurred during the 1981 fire. Ambient readings taken during a 1992 site inspection did not reveal readings significantly above background. Approximately 136,800 people live within 4 miles of the facility. Six State-listed endangered or threatened species are located near the facility, and approximately 1252 acres of wetlands are located with 4 miles of the site.

Site Decision Made by: KRISTIN DOBINSON

Signature: _____

Date: 09/05/2000

